

the support of the workers in twenty-five of the largest industrial cities in the country in their campaign for trade with Russia.

The officers of the Alliance declare that the plan to form committees to work against any campaign that will help solve the unemployment situation by opening up an unlimited market for American goods is "thoroughly un-American and

can only lead to that lawlessness and mob-violence that the Defense Society claims to deplore."

"Whether the American Defense Society is concerned about the thousands of unemployed in labor's ranks or not, we do concern ourselves very seriously and we consider this a legitimate field for thought and action for true Americans," say the officers.

## The All-Russian Union Of Art Workers

After the February Revolution more than 15 art unions were created in Russia. These unions were independent and in no way connected with each other.

All these above mentioned narrow-corporative and craft Unions were never of great importance. Actors in a theatre entered one Union, orchestra players joined another, stage workmen a third etc. All these Unions issued different instructions, —no wonder that since the revolution the Art Workers decided to create one large Union which was finally formed in the beginning of 1919. At the present moment the All-Russian Union of Art workers unites workers in all branches of art and enters with equal rights into the family of proletarian unions, headed by the All-Russian Central Council of Trade Unions. All these above mentioned Unions joined hands and formed one big Union of Art workers including all actors of the drama, opera, ballet, cinematograph, circus and music-hall: managers, balletmasters, music conductors, composers, dramatists and authors of cinematographic scenarios, musicians (including those in the Red Army and the fleet), chorus singers (including church and synagogue choristers, chapel masters, organ players etc.), cinematographic operators, acrobats, clowns, circus riders, and riding masters, trainers, athletes, wrestlers, gymnasts, couplet singers and other music-hall actors, theatre artists (scene painters, property men etc.) as well as image painters, photographers, workers in the kino-ateliers, theatrical hair dressers, and costumiers, dressmakers, shoe makers, carpenters, electrical engineers, house painters, theatre employees (managers, cashiers, controllers etc.), door keepers, servants, watchmen, circus saddlers, and stable boys. The great Chaliapine as well as a simple ticket porter enter with equal rights into the Union. We must add that the union includes also tuners of musical instru-

ments, musical instrument makers, teachers in all branches of art as well as employees in picture galleries and museums and all employees in the following departments of the Peoples Commissariat for Education: 1) The Theatre Department, 2) Music Department, 3) Photographic and Kinematographic Department, 4) Department of Fine Arts, 5) Department for the safe-keeping of museums and monuments of antiquity.

Each theatre, circus, kinematograph and workshop has a local committee which is the primary organ of the Union. The functions of the latter are the same as the functions of local factory committees in other Unions. At the present time the Union numbers nearly 150,000 members and has branch offices in more than 150 towns.

Under the reign of the Tzar the artists were in a miserable position, now they are in better conditions than other workers. Before the revolution theatres played every day: theatre workers did not know what rest was. Now, according to a decree of the Soviet Government, all theatre workers have their holiday on Monday instead of Sunday because it would be unreasonable to deprive working people of theatres on Sunday. Before the revolution managers and impresarios took from theatre workers everything they could. Now, all theatres are nationalized and are administered by a collegiate board which includes representatives of the Union of Art Workers. The Union has also its representatives in the collegiate boards of the Art Sector of the Commissariat of Education and in the corresponding departments of local Soviets.

Now that the blockade may soon be raised, we are ready to take the initiative for the organization of an International Union of Art Workers.

Art is international.

Artists have always been internationalists.

There is great need in organizing a world Labor